Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) In a media exchange network comprising a media exchange server, a network, a first private home and a second private home, the media exchange server being external to the first private home and to the second private home, a system for adapting media content, comprising:

a first communications device disposed in the first private home and being a first media content source, the first communications device being operatively coupled to the network via a first broadband access headend, the first communications device updating a device profile within the first communications device, the device profile relating to the first communications device, the first communications device automatically sends the updated device profile to a second communications device in a second private home, the first communications device comprising a first media processing system, the first media processing system comprising a first software platform that provides user interface functionality, distributed storage functionality, networking functionality, control over first media peripheral devices in the first private home, status monitoring of the first media peripheral devices, and inter-home routing to other communication devices including the inter-home routing to the second communications device in the second private home; and

the second communications device being disposed in the second private home and being a second media content source, the second communications device being operatively coupled to the network via a second broadband access headend, the second communications device receiving the updated device profile relating to the first communications device, adapting media content based upon the updated device profile of the first communications device, and sending, in a private, non-broadcast channel, the adapted media content with a file associated with the media content to the first communications device, the second communications device comprising

a second media processing system, the second media processing system comprising a second software platform that provides user interface functionality, distributed storage functionality, networking functionality, control over second media peripheral devices in the second private home, status monitoring of the media peripheral devices, and inter-home routing to other communication devices including the inter-home routing to the first communications device in the first private home,

wherein the first communications device and the second communications device use ~~uses~~ [[a]] respective TV channel guide look-and-feel user ~~interface~~ interfaces to display private, non-broadcast channels and public broadcast channels from each other,

wherein the private, non-broadcast channels displayed in the first private home comprise the private, non-broadcast channel originally constructed, originally sourced, and sent by the second communications device and private, non-broadcast channels originally constructed and originally sourced by ~~originating from~~ the first communications device,

wherein the adapted media content is set to a first quality level that is lower than a second quality level, the first quality level and the second quality level being ~~that is~~ supported by the first communications device, and

wherein the file comprises information as to where the media content of a highest quality level resides outside of the first private home and the second private home.

2. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1,

wherein the first communications device is coupled to the network via a satellite headend, ~~and~~

wherein the second communications device is coupled to the network via a DSL headend, and

wherein the satellite headend and the DSL headend are configured to provide distributed network capability, digital media parameter adaption, archival functionality, storage, storage management and digital rights management.

3. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the highest quality level is higher than the first quality level and the second quality level, wherein the media content of the highest level is stored in the media exchange server ~~at least one of the first communications device and the second communications device comprises a software platform that can provide a user interface functionality, a distributed storage functionality and a networking functionality~~.

4. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein, after the first communications device receives the adapted media content at the first quality level with the file, the first communications device uses the file to request the media content at the highest quality level from the media exchange server ~~at least one of the first communications device and the second communications device comprises a software platform that can provide device registration, channel setup, program setup, management and security~~.

5. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein a private, non-broadcast channel displayed in the second private home comprises a private, non-broadcast channel originally constructed, originally sourced, and sent by the first communications device and private, non-broadcast channels originally constructed and originally sourced by the second communications device ~~at least one of the first communications device and the second communications device is adapted to provide a distributed networking capability, an archival functionality, a temporary storage capability, a storage manager and a digital rights manager.~~

6. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the ~~device profile comprises information related to digital media parameters~~ TV channel guide look-and-feel user interfaces are navigated using corresponding remote controls and displays.

7. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 6, wherein the media exchange server communicates with the first communications device through the first broadband access headend, and wherein the media exchange server communicates with the second communications device though the second broadband access headend ~~the information related to the digital media parameters comprises information related to resolution and image size~~.

8. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the ~~device profile comprises information related to media content capabilities of the first communications device~~ first media processing system of the first communications device in the first private home and the second media processing system of the second communications device in the second private home each provide media push capability, media access capability, media channel construction, media channel selection, image sequence selection, text and voice overlay, channel and program naming, inter-home routing selection, authorship, media rights management, and shared inter-home media experience.

9. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the private, non-broadcast channel sent by the second communications device comprises second home videos and second personal pictures stored at the second private home, and wherein the private, non-broadcast channels originating from the first communications device comprises first home videos and first personal pictures stored at the first private home ~~at least one of the first communications device and the second communications device comprises a display that facilitates viewing and interacting with a user interface, media, data and services available on the network~~.

10. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the first communications device and the second communications device each provide respective channel construction capability, networking capability, third party media access, personal media access, sequencing, editing, media overlays, media inserts, billing, scheduling and addressing ~~requests the media content from the second communications device via the network~~.

11. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the first communications device can select from different delivery options of the media content from the second communications device based on cost

~~wherein the second communications device sends, in a first private, non broadcast channel, personal pictures,~~

~~wherein the second communications device sends, in a second private, non broadcast channel, personal videos,~~

~~wherein the second communications device sends, in a third private, non broadcast channel, personal music, and~~

~~wherein the first communications device uses the TV channel guide look and feel user interface to display the first private, non broadcast channel, the second private, non broadcast channel, the third, non broadcast channel and the public broadcast channel~~s.

12. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the media exchange network supports generating personal network associations, personal storage management, media capture device support, security/authentication/authorization support, authorship tracking, billing, and address registration and maintenance ~~device profile comprises one or more digital parameters set to a quality level lower than a maximum quality level supported by the first communications device~~.

13. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the first media peripheral devices in the first private home and the second media peripheral devices in the second private home comprises digital cameras and digital camcorders

~~wherein the second communications device creates private media channels relating to particular content residing in the second communications device, and~~

~~wherein the second communications device pushes the private media channels from the second private home to authorized devices in the media exchange network~~.

14. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim ~~13~~ 1, ~~wherein the file comprises a meta file associated with the media content~~ comprising:

a third party media server is coupled to the network,

wherein the first communications device communicates with the third party media server through the first broadband access headend and the network,

wherein the second communications device communicates with the third party media server through the second broadband access headend and the network, and

wherein the first communications device in the first private home uses its TV channel guide look-and-feel user interface to send a request from the first communications device to the third party media server to anonymously send third party media content to the second communications device in the second private home.

15. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the ~~first communications device can access the media content of the highest quality level by using the file~~ the private, non-broadcast channel originally constructed, originally sourced, and sent by the second communications device is accessible for viewing by the first communications device as per a schedule set up by the second communications device.

16. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the first communications device and the second communications device each provide channel creating, storing, indexing and viewing ~~adapts one or more digital parameters of the media content based upon the device profile of the first communications device~~.

17. (Currently Amended) A system for adapting media content, comprising:

a set-top box system disposed in a private home, the set-top box system being operatively coupled to a network that extends outside the private home, the set-top box system revising a device profile of the set-top box system, the set-top box system storing the revised device profile of the set-top box system, automatically sending the revised device profile to the network, and receiving a file, in a non-broadcast channel, associated with media content and the media content that has been adapted based upon the revised device profile from another set-top box system,

wherein each set-top box system comprises a media processing system, the media processing system comprising a software platform that provides user interface functionality, distributed storage functionality, networking functionality, control over media peripheral devices in the private home, status monitoring of the media peripheral devices, and inter-home routing to other set-top box systems,

wherein ~~the~~ each set-top box system uses a TV channel guide look-and-feel user interface to display non-broadcast channels from each other and broadcast channels,

wherein the non-broadcast channels comprise non-broadcast channels originally constructed, originally sourced, and sent by other set-top box systems and non-broadcast channels originally constructed and originally sourced by ~~originating from~~ the set-top box system,

wherein the adapted media content is set to a first quality level that is lower than a second quality level, the first quality level and the second quality level being ~~that is~~ supported by the set-top box system,

wherein the file comprises information as to a location where the media content of a highest quality level resides, and

wherein the location is different from a source of the adapted media content.

18. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 17, wherein each set-top box system provides media push capability, media access capability, media channel construction, media channel selection, image sequence selection, text and voice overlay, channel and program naming, inter-home routing selection, authorship, media rights management, and shared inter-home media experience ~~comprising:~~

~~a media server operatively coupled to the network,~~

~~wherein the media server adapts the media content based on the revisable device profile~~.

19. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 17, wherein, ~~the set-top box system accesses the media content of the highest quality level by processing the file~~ after the set-top box system receives the adapted media content at the first quality level with the file, the first set-top box uses the file to request the media content at the highest quality level from a source identified in the file, wherein the source is not one of the other set-top box systems.

20. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 17, comprising:

a third party media server is coupled to the network,

wherein the set-top box system communicates with the third party media server through a first broadband access headend and the network,

wherein the other set-top box system communicates with the third party media server through a second broadband access headend and the network, and

wherein the set-top box system uses its TV channel guide look-and-feel user interface to generate and to send a request from the set-top box system to the third party media server to anonymously send third party media content to the other set-top box system

~~a communications device that stores a revisable device profile of the communications device,~~

~~wherein the communications device automatically sends the revisable device profile of the communications device to the network, and~~

~~wherein the communications device receives a file associated with the media content and the media content that has been adapted based upon the sent device profile of the communications device~~.

21. (Currently Amended) A system for adapting media content, comprising:

a communications device disposed in a private home, the communications device being operatively coupled to a network that extends beyond the private home, the communications device receiving, from the network, a revisable device profile of a display that is external to the private home, adapting media content based upon the received device profile from another communications device external to the private home, and sending, in a non-broadcast channel that is displayed on the display in a TV channel guide look-and-feel manner, a file associated with the media content and the adapted media content to the network,

wherein each communications device comprises a media processing system, the media processing system comprising a software platform that provides user interface functionality, distributed storage functionality, networking functionality, control over media peripheral devices in the private home, status monitoring of the media peripheral devices, and inter-home routing to other communications devices,

wherein ~~the~~ each communications device uses a TV channel guide look-and-feel user interface to display non-broadcast channels from each other and broadcast channels,

wherein the non-broadcast channels comprise non-broadcast channels originally constructed, originally sourced and sent by other communications devices and non-broadcast channels originally constructed and originally sourced by ~~originating from~~ the communication device,

wherein the adapted media content is set to a first quality level that is lower than a second quality level, the first quality level and the second quality level being ~~that is~~ supported by the display,

wherein the file comprises information as to a location where the media content of a highest quality level resides, ~~and~~

wherein the location is different from a source of the adapted media content, and

wherein each communications device provides media push capability, media access capability, media channel construction, media channel selection, image sequence selection, text and voice overlay, channel and program naming, inter-home routing selection, authorship, media rights management, and shared inter-home media experience.

22. (Currently Amended) A method for adapting media content, comprising:

updating, by a second communications device, a device profile stored in the second communications device and relating to the second communications device;

automatically sending the updated device profile from the second communications device of a second home to a first communications device of a first home over a network that extends outside the first home and the second home, wherein each communications device comprises a media processing system, the media processing system comprising a software platform that provides user interface functionality, distributed storage functionality, networking functionality, control over media peripheral devices in the private home, status monitoring of the media peripheral devices, and inter-home routing to other communications devices;

receiving, by first communications device of the first home, the updated device profile relating to the second communications device of the second home, the first communications device and the second communications device being operatively coupled to the network;

adapting, by the first communications device, media content based upon the updated device profile, wherein the adapted media content is set to a first quality level that is lower than a second quality level that is supported by the second communications device, wherein a file comprises information identifying where the media content of a highest quality level resides, and wherein the information identifies a location that is different from a source of the adapted media content;

sending, in a non-broadcast channel, the file associated with the media content and the adapted media content to the second communications device; and

providing, by the second communications device, a TV channel guide look-and-feel user interface to display non-broadcast channels and broadcast channels, wherein the non-broadcast channels displayed in the first private home comprise the non-broadcast channel originally constructed, originally sourced and sent by the first communications device and non-broadcast channels originally constructed and originally sourced by ~~originating from~~ the second communications device.

23. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 22, wherein, ~~adapting the media content comprises adapting one or more digital parameters characterizing the media content~~ after the second communications device receives the adapted media content at the first quality level with the file, the second communications device uses the file to request the media content at the highest quality level from a source identified in the file, wherein the source is not the first communications device and the second communications device.

24. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 22, wherein the ~~media content of the highest quality level resides in the network, but external to the first home and the second home~~ non-broadcast channels displayed in the first home comprise a non-broadcast channel originally constructed, originally sourced, and sent by the second communications device and non-broadcast channels originally constructed and originally sourced by the first communications device.

25. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 24, wherein the ~~first communications device creates private media channels accessible only by the second communications device, the private media channels relating to particular content residing in the second communications device~~ non-broadcast channel originally constructed, originally sourced, and sent by the first communications device is accessible for viewing by the second communications device as per a schedule set up by the first communications device.

26. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 22, ~~comprising:~~

~~accessing, by the second communications device, the media content of the highest quality level by processing the file~~ wherein the first communications device communicates with a third party media server through the network, wherein the second communications device communicates with the third party media server through the network, and wherein the first

communications device in the first home uses its TV channel guide look-and-feel user interface to send a request from the first communications device to the third party media server to anonymously send third party media content to the second communications device in the second home.

27. (Currently Amended) A method for adapting media content, comprising:

storing, in a communications device in a private home, a revisable device profile of the communications device, the communications device being operatively coupled to a network that extends beyond the private home;

updating, by the communications device, the revisable device profile of the communications device;

automatically sending, by the communications device, the updated device profile to an other communications device of the network, wherein each communications device comprises a media processing system, the media processing system comprising a software platform that provides user interface functionality, distributed storage functionality, networking functionality, control over media peripheral devices in the private home, status monitoring of the media peripheral devices, and inter-home routing to other communications devices;

receiving, by the communications device and in a non-broadcast channel from the network, a file associated with the media content and the media content that has been adapted based upon the sent device profile, wherein the adapted media content is set to a first quality level that is lower than a second quality level that is supported by the communications device, wherein the file comprises information identifying where the media content of a highest quality level resides, and wherein the information identifies a location is different from a source of the adapted media content; and

providing, by the communications device, a TV channel guide look-and-feel user interface to display non-broadcast channels and broadcast channels, wherein the non-broadcast

channels displayed in the ~~first~~ private home comprise the non-broadcast channel originally constructed by, originally sourced by, and received from the other communications device of the network and non-broadcast channels originally constructed and originally sourced by ~~originating from~~ the communications device.

28. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 27, wherein non-broadcast channels displayed by the other communications device comprise a non-broadcast channel originally constructed, originally sourced, and sent by the communications device and non-broadcast channels originally constructed and originally sourced by the other communications device ~~comprising:~~

~~adapting, by a media server in a second private home, the media content based on the revisable device profile, the media server being operatively coupled to the network~~.

29. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 27, wherein the communications device communicates with a third party media server through the network, wherein the other communications device communicates with the third party media server through the network, and wherein the communications device uses its TV channel guide look-and-feel user interface to send a request from the communications device to the third party media server for the third party media server to anonymously send third party media content to the other communications device ~~comprising:~~

~~replacing the communications device with a second communications device;~~

~~storing, in the second communications device, a revisable device profile of the second communications device, the second communications device being operatively coupled to the network;~~

~~automatically sending the revisable device profile of the second communications device to the network; and~~

~~receiving, from the network, a file associated with the media content and the media content that has been adapted based upon the sent revisable device profile of the second communications device.~~